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Attorney Docket No. 0553-0494

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:)
Yoshinari HIGAKI et al)
Serial No.: 10/576,177)
Filed: April 19, 2006)
Int. Application No: PCT/JP2005/017223)
Intl. Filing Date: September 13, 2005)
Art Unit:)
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicant hereby calls the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application. Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(i) copies of cited US patent and US patent application publications are not submitted herewith. Copies of foreign patent documents and non-patent literature documents are enclosed herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

No inference should be drawn that the attached list sets forth a comprehensive investigation of the prior art, that any or all are

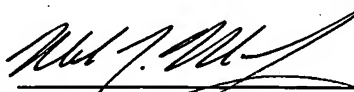
pertinent to the invention, or that any apparatus disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention.

The citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence. Citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

A first office action, notice of allowance or issue fee notification has not been received in this case, so Applicant does not believe that a fee is due. However, if any such fee is required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50/1039.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark J. Murphy

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LIST OF PUBLICATIONS
CITED BY APPLICANT

Attorney Docket No.
0553-0494

Serial No.
10/576,177

Applicant
Yoshinari HIGAKI et al.

Filing Date
April 19, 2006

Group

US PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME		
	6,433,842 7,154,218	08/13/2002 12/26/2006	Kaneko et al. Murakami et al.		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	English Abstract	English Translation

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

(Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of article or item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, pages(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published).

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EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP form. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.